

Ben Recruitment

Social Worker – Children in Care (CIC)

This position is open to Newly Qualified Social Workers (NQSWs) and Experienced Social Workers.

The starting salary for a NQSW is £28,592 per annum and this will rise to £32,065 per annum on successful completion of the ASYE programme.

Children in Care:

Our Children in Care teams work with children and young people up to the age of 18 who are in care – those who are either placed with foster carers or who live in residential homes. They work with the children and young people to ensure their experiences in care are good, and that they are prepared when leaving care or returning home to their family. The Children in Care Team also work with children and families within the court arena. The CIC teams receive cases in proceedings after the first hearing, they visit children and young people in placement, develop permanency plans which include Special Guardianship Order (SGO) and adoption.

Job Purpose Summary:

Managing a defined caseload, the Social Worker is responsible for working effectively with children, young people & families/carers to achieve positive change and improved outcomes. This includes enquiry, assessment, purposeful intervention through direct work and review in relation to Child Protection, Child in Need and Children Looked After, achieving permanency through adoption, Special Guardianship and long-term care for Children in Care.

Role Accountabilities:

- Assess, plan, review and provide support to a child, family or carer with complex family or social care needs, taking full account of appropriate legal frameworks, policy, and guidance
- Assess family functioning, providing help and support, when relationship breakdown threatens to impair the health or well-being of children at risk of abuse or neglect
- Work collaboratively, building effective working relationships with other professionals, internally and externally to help children, young people and families improve and gain control of their lives when safety or ability to participate in their community is restricted
- Carry out an assessment or enquiry and plan responses to safeguard a child from abuse, neglect, or exploitation, building effective relationships with children, adults and families as appropriate, including intervention when information or circumstances suggest there may be a need to remove a child from their parents or carers
- Arrange appropriate alternative care (including, where appropriate a permanent home) in collaboration with children, young people, and their parents/carers where the parents/carers cannot care for them
- Accountable for making recommendations about whether a case has reached the threshold for statutory intervention
- Promoting autonomy and development with individuals who have complex social needs and are more vulnerable because of disability, exclusion, or diminished capacity, for example, working with people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, or diminished capacity
- Carry out age and human rights assessments as appropriate
- Maintain up to date, accurate and high-quality records of activity on cases. Participate in a range of planning and decision-making forums including case discussions, Strategy Meetings, Legal Planning meetings, Child Protection Conferences, Statutory Reviews
- Make a report to support an application for a care, adoption, or other order as relevant
- Write court reports and give evidence in relation to children at risk during legal proceedings
- Assess people's suitability as foster carers, kinship carers (including Special Guardians), or adopters
- Act as Practice Educators for social work qualifying course students on practice placements (as appropriate) or Assessor for Newly Qualified Social Workers completing their ASYE

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- Working with communities, families, and individuals to maximise or promote their personal strengths, social networks and resources
- Hold a caseload of a level of complexity and provide case management, guidance, support and expert advice to social care staff, students, and newly qualified social workers, as and when required

The Experience You Will Bring

- Diploma or Degree in Social Work, CQSW, CSS or equivalent
- Registration with Social Work England as Registered Social Worker
- Demonstrable capability of practice in accordance with current professional standards e.g. Professional Capability Framework (PCF), Knowledge & Skills Statement (KSS)
- Case recording
- Demonstrate ability in the application of SW knowledge, using emotional intelligence, analytical skills and act with confidence in challenging social and family situations.
- A good working knowledge and ability to use information technology and related systems e.g., Word, SW case recording systems
- Required to be mobile throughout a wide operational area including travelling around the County of Essex and beyond, transporting service users and their belongings and to be able to do so in an emergency. Driving licence and car or ability to meet the mobility requirements of the role through other means is essential.
- Required to work flexibly as required, including evenings and weekends if necessary.

Please note that interviews being conducted on a virtual basis

We seek the best talent from the widest pool of people as diversity is key to our success.

Should you wish to apply for this job, please send an up-to-date CV to email info@benrecruitment.co.uk